United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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In Reply Refer To:
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EMS TRANSMISSION: 2/14/05
Instruction Memorandum **No. CA-2005-019**
Expires: 09/30/06

To: CDD District Manager, All Field Managers
                 (*Attention – District/Regional and Field Office FMO's*)

From: DSD, Support Services

Subject: California Fire Perimeter Procedures for 2005

Purpose: This Instruction Memorandum (IM) transmits the procedures for submitting fire perimeters within California effective March 15, 2005.

Background: In 1998, the BLM initiated a Bureau-wide Geographic Information System (GIS) polygon theme for all Wildland fires, in an effort to aid management activities and mechanical hazard reduction treatments. Starting with the FY 2001 fire season, following national direction, California has included all incidents in the data base, that are charged to sub activity codes 2821, 2823 or 2824 and are ten acres in size or greater. For incidents less than ten acres in size, the point of origin is captured in the Bureau's fire occurrence database on the Shared Applications Computer System (SACS). To further guide this effort of gathering perimeters, Victoria Smith has been designated as the contact for California's fire polygon database.

The Fire Polygon Database is a benefit to all of the Bureau's natural resource programs. This data is also used by cooperating agencies in managing wildland fires. Timely access to fire perimeters is essential for prioritizing resources.

Policy/Action: This IM sets forth policy and direction that fires which have burned ten or more acres of BLM land will have perimeters submitted to the Fire Alliance's California Fire Planning and Mapping Tools database for California.

If any office does not have Geographical Information Systems (GIS) capabilities, the fire perimeter should be drawn on USGS 7.5 minute series Topographic maps and sent, at the time the fire report is submitted, to CA-943 attention: Fire Perimeters.

For initial attack fires, a projected shapefile will be posted to the California Fire Planning and Mapping website when the fire report is submitted.

For extended attack fires, a projected shapefile will be posted to the California Fire Planning and Mapping website when the ICS-209 is updated.

When BLM has delegated the suppression protection on BLM land to another agency this new requirement should be shared with the other agency at the annual operating plan meetings. Some cooperating agencies have different acreage requirements for gathering fire perimeters. Clear communication will ensure that all fires which have burned ten acres or more, of BLM land, are submitted to this interagency website.

If you have any questions, please contact Victoria Smith, Branch of Fire and Aviation Management at 916-978-4428 or vcsmith@ca.blm.gov.

Signed by: Authenticated by:
Karen Barnette   Richard A. Erickson
DSD, Support Services   Records Management

2 Attachments
     1 - Perimeter Upload Process (1pg)
     2 - Perimeter Data Upload Form (1pg)

Perimeter Upload Process

The process for posting the projected shapefile is as follows:

1. Access the California Fire Planning and Mapping website at:
   http://wildfire.cr.usgs.gov/fireplanning/

2. Click on the Upload link. This will bring you to a password form. The password is **ca_per1m**. Hit Login to bring up the perimeter form.

3. Fill out and submit the form. Browse to the shapefile and submit all associated files (.shp, .shx, .dbf, .prj, .sbn, and .sbx files). When the "Upload File" button is pushed the form is submitted and the perimeter is loaded. This may take a few seconds. After the perimeter is uploaded, you will receive a verification message.

4. The perimeter will be uploaded to the Fire Planning and Mapping Tools Viewer within approximately five minutes. At that time the perimeter is accessible by the public.